



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/589,072	08/09/2006	Takemasu Okada	KNJ-229-A	5873
21828	7590	03/07/2008	EXAMINER	
CARRIER BLACKMAN AND ASSOCIATES			ROSENBAUM, MARK	
24101 NOVI ROAD				
SUITE 100			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
NOVI, MI 48375			3725	
			NOTIFICATION DATE	DELIVERY MODE
			03/07/2008	ELECTRONIC

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

cbalaw@gmail.com  
cbalaw@ameritech.net  
wblackman@ameritech.net

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 10/589,072	<b>Applicant(s)</b> OKADA ET AL.
	<b>Examiner</b> Mark Rosenbaum	<b>Art Unit</b> 3725

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If no period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED. (35 U.S.C. § 133).

Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_.
- 2a) This action is FINAL.      2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) Claim(s) 1-21 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-21 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.  
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All    b) Some \* c) None of:
  1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.
  3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date 09/06
- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_.
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Double Patenting***

Applicant is advised that should claim 14 be found allowable, claim 16 will be objected to under 37 CFR 1.75 as being a substantial duplicate thereof. When two claims in an application are duplicates or else are so close in content that they both cover the same thing, despite a slight difference in wording, it is proper after allowing one claim to object to the other as being a substantial duplicate of the allowed claim.

See MPEP § 706.03(k).

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1,6,7,8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Japan '976. Figure 9 shows a disposal having an inlet, an outlet, crushing means, discharge impellers, and an adjustable gap clearance to allow shredded material to exit the system.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claim 9 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Japan '976. The exact location of the impellers would have been well within the scope of one skilled in the art once their use was known as in Japan '976.

Claims 2-4,14-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Japan '976 as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Japan '380. No motor control means is shown in Japan '976 which limits apparatus versatility. Japan '380 solves this problem by disclosing similar apparatus including the use of motor control means. In order to render the apparatus more versatile, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Japan '976 by providing motor control means, taught to be desirable by Japan '380. The exact speed of the motor would then have been an obvious design choice only as the controller of Japan '380 could provide for any desired speed.

Claims 18-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Japan '976 in view of Japan '380 as applied to claim 2 above, and further in view of Japan '021. The basic combination does not deliver extra water to the disposal to provide for better material flow. Japan '021 solves this problem by disclosing similar apparatus including the delivery of water to the crushing chamber. In order to improve material flow, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Japan '976 by providing means to deliver extra water to the crushing chamber, taught to be desirable by Japan '021.

Claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Japan '976 as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Japan '021. See the above paragraph for the use of Japan '021.

Claims 101-3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Japan '976 as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Japan '527. The basic combination does not deliver extra water to the disposal to provide for better material flow. Japan '527 solves this problem by disclosing similar apparatus including the delivery of water to the discharge chamber. In order to improve material flow, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Japan '976 by providing means to deliver extra water to the discharge chamber, taught to be desirable by Japan '527

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mark Rosenbaum whose telephone number is 571-272-4523. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Derris Banks can be reached on 571-272-4419. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Mark Rosenbaum  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 3725

MR

/Mark Rosenbaum/  
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3725